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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Koji IMURA

Application No.: New PCT Application

Filed: March 15, 2001

For: CODING APPARATUS AND CODING METHOD OF TIME-VARYING IMAGE SIGNAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

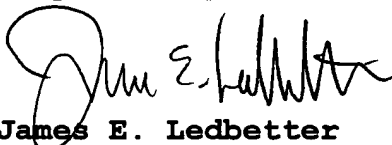
Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. JP '377, JP '755, JP '248, JP '123, JP '681, JP '045 and JP '355 were cited in a PCT International Search Report (copy attached). US '322 and EP '671 correspond to JP '248 and JP '681 respectively. All other JP patent documents are accompanied by English abstracts.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106.

Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 15, 2001

JEL/clw

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.01121 PCT

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